

OUR SABBATH SCHOOL
FOR TEN MORE YEARS.

A SUPPLEMENTARY NARRATIVE

—OF—

ROUTINE AND INCIDENTS,

1879 TO 1889

—IN—

SAINT ANDREW'S CHURCH
SABBATH SCHOOL,
FERGUS, ONTARIO.

—BY—

A. D. [✓]FORDYCE, (SEC'Y.)

1889.

ADVOCATE PRINT.



W. H. M. Bolwell

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The original Sabbath School of St. Andrew's Church, Fergus, merged in that of the Melville Church Congregation in 1844. As there was no Pastor over the congregation of St. Andrew's Church till 1847, it was not till May 1849 that its Sabbath School was re-organized as mentioned in the "Narrative of 30 years" referred to at the outset of what follows.

Any profit realized on this Supplementary Narrative will go to the Sabbath School Library.

SUPPLEMENTARY NARRATIVE

1879-1889.

SABBATH SCHOOL, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

.....FERGUS.....

In May 1879 acting on the suggestion of the valued Superintendent of our Sabbath School, a Narrative of Routine and Incidents during the Thirty previous years of its history, was prepared and read at a meeting in the Church on the evening of the 19th—the 20th of May being the 30th Anniversary. The Narrative was printed in the following year and about 200 copies were circulated. There had been two years immediately before Mr. Mullan's settlement as our pastor, during which there had been no school :—the other 28 years were divided in the Narrative into three periods of Seven, Fourteen and seven years, but in what follows, embracing the period between 1879 and 1889, the ten years are regarded as a whole, and treated of under the following heads :—Teaching Staff, Routine, Quarterly Sermons, Mission-Pupils, Anniversaries and Entertainments, Obituary Notices, Attendance and Contributions.

TEACHING STAFF.

At the Anniversary in 1879 the number of our Teachers was 13. Since then 29 appointments have been made. Of these 42 Teachers, 26 have left us—the 16 who remain being our present Teaching Staff including Mr. Mullan and Mr. Moffat the only ones now with us of the original *Thirteen*.

The other *Eleven* were the late Mr. Cadenhead and myself ; the late Mr. Robert Shaw and Mr. Muir ; Mr. James Clyne and Mr. Moorhead ; Miss Fordyce and Miss Hewlett, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Moffat and Mrs. James Munro.

The *Fifteen* who had joined us since 1879 but who have also left us since their appointment, were Mr. White, Mr. Bain, Mr. Young, Mr. Black, Mr. McGillivray, Mr. John A Cadenhead and Mr. Walker, Mr. Bryans, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. French ; Mrs. L. C. Munro, Mrs. Gerrie (now Skene), Mrs. Shaw (now Black), Miss Jackson and Miss Pattison (now Mrs. Hoffmann).

The causes of withdrawal of these 26 Teachers have been various. Some have been removed by death ; some have left Fergus for homes elsewhere

or in prosecution of study ; some who remain in Fergus are no longer connected with us as a church ; some who are still members of this church and attend its services, are unfit through infirmity for work in the school ; while others who still worship with us have no doubt had satisfactory reasons for giving place meanwhile to others.

The present Librarian's duties, assigned over two years since, rendered his withdrawal from the work of teaching a necessity.

Besides the stated Teachers who have been mentioned, members of the Bible Class have frequently rendered assistance by supplying temporary vacancies ; while others have done so, not for an occasional Sabbath but for periods more or less prolonged. Of the latter were the late Miss Elizabeth Tunnah (subsequently Mrs Lever), Miss Isabella Mackay and Miss Kelly who has had charge of Miss Moffat's class during the past five months. Recently, also, Mrs. Mullan's severe and protracted illness made a temporary arrangement necessary. For a time Mrs. Boswell had charge of the class, till laid aside, herself, by severe illness. It was then in the hands of Mrs. Gordon and afterwards of Mrs. Thomson.

A large amount of voluntary labor has been given and given cheerfully by the various Teachers employed during these ten years, surely not without considerable benefit, intellectual, moral or spiritual to the scholars,—and we should hope that the fact of Thirteen scholars having united with the Church a year ago, and others since then, may be regarded, as an indication that, under God, the work of the Sabbath School Teachers has not been wholly in vain. It may be added that eight of those who have been scholars are now teaching classes in the school.

ROUTINE.

There has been no very great change in our arrangements during these ten years.

The *International Lesson Series* has been used regularly.

No *Teachers' Meeting* has been held, except in connection with the Weekly Prayer Meeting. For sometime, indeed, opportunity was afforded for social prayer and conference on the interests of the school, at the close of the exercises on the first Sabbath of each month. Recently, a Sabbath School Teachers' Union Institute has been organized in Fergus, a weekly meeting being held when the lesson for the following Sabbath is taken up.

Quarterly Reports on Attendance, Contributions and incidental matters continue to be given, and the *Quarterly Sermons* preached by Mr. Mullan to the scholars, are listened to with interest.

A *Quarterly Lesson Review* has not been invariably kept up ;—Missionary and Temperance addresses being occasionally given instead, and information communicated on these subjects, varied now and then by a Concert Bible reading on these or other suitable topics.

The *Shorter Catechism* continues to be taught : but we cannot say much as to knowledge its contents by the school generally. An oral examination on the whole of its contents or on parts was held at the Anniversary in May 1883 and a similar one at that in 1885. At the former 26 scholars out of nine classes took part : at the latter 20 scholars from seven classes—no boy coming forward in the second. In both cases Rewards were given for relative proficiency. The Rev. Mr. Campbell of Harriston was the examiner at the first, the Rev. Mr. Rose of Elora at the second. A written examination on the Catechism was also held on the 4th December, 1887. Eleven girls took part in it, six of them with a wider range than the others.

The *Slated Black Board* was used for sometime in connection with closing remarks on the lesson. In 1880 *Transfer* designs were procured, and for these next year, the *colored designs* of the Providence Lithograph Company was substituted. In 1883 the less expensive, altho' less attractive, designs of Lance and Yost of Cleveland were taken, but in 1886 the Providence designs were fallen back on, now called Bible Pictures, and only half the cost of the former ones of the same Company. When these colored pictures have served their purpose in the school—whether singly week by week of the quarter, or together, on Review Sabbaths at its close—they may be had for five cents each by any of the scholars or their parents who desire them. A good many have been given to Mr. Knox for schools in Muskoka, where his mission lies, and others have been sent to the North West for Indian children in charge of our Missionaries there—through the Women's Foreign Missionary Association of the congregation.

Cook's *Intermediate Teacher's Quarterly* continues to be used by the majority of the Teachers.

At present the Band of Hope Review, Golden Hour and Early Days are the *papers the scholars* get.

Gall and Inglis' *Hymn Book* has latterly been given up and the collection known as "Gospel Hymns Consolidated," used instead—an improvement in some respects, but wanting many old familiar Hymns particularly suitable for the services of the Sabbath School. The regular use of the *Organ* the last year or two has helped to make the singing heartier and more general.

As is pretty generally known, I became unable through the effects of an accident three years ago, for continuing the combined duties of Secretary and Librarian. In March 1886 for a month or so the services of Mr. Arthur D. Cadenhead of Jamaica, a former scholar, who was a short time in Fergus, were available for the *Library*. It was then attended to for sometime by Mr. T. J. Hamilton—after which Mr. W. Walker was appointed. He gave up his class and likewise acts very efficiently as Assistant Secretary. A considerable addition was made to the Library in 1880 through proceeds of sale of the 30 years Narrative which has been referred to—when the present bookcase was also provided by the thoughtful kindness of Mr. Mullan. Subsequent additions have been made by means of Lectures illustrated by Stereopticon Views, kindly given by the late Rev. Hugh Rose of Elora in 1886, and Mr. D. W. Campbell in 1888. By the former on “Walks through Rome,” \$18 were handed over for the Library and \$10 by the latter “On places of interest in Europe.”

The formation of a *Mission Band* was warmly recommended to the school by Mr. Donald McGillivray, now a Missionary in China, on the 12th Feb. 1888. Such a Band was, in consequence organized from among the Female Scholars:—and has already done good service.

There is no *Band of Hope* in connection with the school, as there is a general one in Fergus to which many of the scholars belong: but there is a Total Abstinence Pledge which a good many have taken.

QUARTERLY SERMONS.

Mr. Mullan's presentation of religious truth in a form well adapted to the scholars' minds, we feel sure has been found instructive, edifying and suitable, no less by parents and others, for themselves. Sometimes a quarter may unavoidably be passed over; in some cases anniversaries or other special occasions may fall on the Children's quarterly Sabbath, but the intention is to have one sermon specially designed for them in each Quarter of the year.

We cannot however, do more now, than mention the subjects selected as the basis of these sermons during the ten years under consideration.

“None of you shall appear before me empty.”

“Trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord that he might be glorified.”

“The Lord is thy keeper.”

“There shall come a star out of Jacob.”

"I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God, of that which doth cost me nothing."

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

"There is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared."

"He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he that ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city."

"My yoke is easy."

"There was leaning on Jesus' bosom, one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved."

"Lovest thou Me !"

"What manner of child shall this be ?"

"Jesus wept."

"I write unto you little children because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake."

"Fight the good fight of faith."

"Yield not your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin ; but yield yourselves unto God."

"Reaching forth unto those things that are before."

"There is one God and one Mediator between God and man,—the man Christ Jesus."

"His children shall have a place of refuge."

"Precious in the sight of the Lord, is the death of His Saints."

"My son, give me thine heart."

"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul—both sure and steadfast."

"Sitting down, they watched Him there."

There were also three sermons on historical subjects. The first on 29th May 1881 being on *Rachel* represented figuratively as weeping over the massacre of the young children by Herod ; the subject doubtless suggested by the sad loss a few days before of 225 individuals from the steamer *Victoria* at London, Ontario, on 24th May the lessons being drawn from these points, so liable to be overlooked by the young : Disobedience, disregard of danger, desire to be with a crowd and a defective vessel, aptly portraying the risk to the soul so frequently heedlessly run.

Another of these historical topics taken as subject of the quarterly sermon, was Rahab's binding the scarlet thread to the window, as had been previously arranged with the spies, for the protection of her family.

The third was on the miraculous increase of the Widow's oil, through Elisha's means.

MISSION PUPILS.

It was in the year 1880 that Mr. Mullan suggested the support of a pupil at the *Pointe Aux Trembles Institute*, aided at first by the Congregation to the extent of one half of the yearly amount required. In order to make a commencement, he assisted liberally himself. The suggestion was acted on. Our first pupil was assigned to us in December 1880. She was the child of poor parents and was sixteen years of age. Her name was Georgina Pepin, and she was described to us as not being very intelligent, but studious, persevering and quiet, and "one who loved Jesus."

In her place Louis Giroux was assigned to us in the winter of 1882, an intelligent boy of fourteen years of age, who had been under very good influence at home. His parents who lived at St. Cecile on the Gatineau were converts from the Church of Rome. Favorable reports regarding him, were regularly received from M. Bourgoin the Principal, and we were gladdened by learning that he was one of 31 scholars who accepted Christ during the Session closing in June 1885. He then decided to devote himself to Mission work. In the summer of 1886 he was employed as a Colporteur in the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick; returning to his studies at Pointe Aux Trembles next session; and at its close entering the Presbyterian College at Montreal, with a view to the Ministry. We received four interesting letters from him while he was at Pointe Aux Trembles, dated severally December 1882, June 1884, Febr'y 1886 and March 1887, all in French except the last.

In his place Alfred Clavelle a boy of 13 years of age, was assigned to us in Nov. 1887, the child of French Roman Catholic parents who were described as "not altogether under the power of the Clergy." Good accounts have been received respecting him since he entered the Institution and M. Bourgoin writes that he is much interested in his studies, and especially in the Bible lessons. We had a grateful and animated letter from him in April 1888, and have learned that he has had sufficient influence to bring another member of the family to Pointe Aux Trembles.

Passing over to the Missionary Institution at Poona, India.—We learned in 1881 in the month of March that our pupil there Anna Muttoo or Cashinath had been admitted to the membership of the Church on profession of her faith in the Lord Jesus, in September preceding and was established as a Teacher in a High Caste School in the City. Eighteen months later we were informed that she has been married to Balajee a schoolmaster under the well known native Minister Rev. Neryan Sheshadrai and had gone to reside 200 miles distant. In June 1881 a letter was

sent to her signed by all the Teachers of our School, and one scholar from each class, accompanied by Four Dollars as a parting remembrance. She had been supported by us for Nine years.

In her place on 6 Aug. 1882 our present pupil Prita was adopted, described to us then as a "little waif—pretty, amusing and clever." She soon exhibited strongly marked individuality of character. Altho' loveable she was self-willed, fond of meddling, prone to assume superiority, and direct those older than herself. She is a nervous, excitable child and has latterly occasioned her Teachers no small anxiety. She is probably about ten years of age, having been supposed to be between three and four years when she was adopted. Miss Bernard has more than once requested the prayers of her supporters in Fergus for their little charge, and this it is hoped, has not been overlooked. As Miss Bernard remarked, "It is very nice to send money to the girls—and of course they cannot be supported without money, but I think those who take them ought to do a great deal more for them and pray for them till they are "Stars" in God's Kingdom." We can but hope and pray, that our little Prita may ere long become so, that her life thereafter may be consecrated to the service of the dear Saviour who died for her; and that the special characteristics which have been alluded to may be used of God for the promoting His glory in her own land.

ANNIVERSARIES AND ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Thirtieth Anniversary of our Sabbath School, was the first which was commemorated by any special service.

Next year (1880) Mr. Mullan preached on the 30th of May from Song of Solomon 1, 8, "Go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock." Next evening an entertainment was held, when 17 children took part in two Concert exercises (ten in the first—seven in the second). An address was also given by the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, and a recitation by Mr. Clyne, one of the Teachers.

In 1881 there was no evening meeting. Mr. Mullan however preached on 22nd May from Nehemiah 2, 18, "So they strengthened their hands for the good work," and special Anniversary Cards were given to the scholars.

The year 1882 was passed over, but in 1883 the Rev. Mr. Campbell of Harriston conducted the forenoon service on 21st May preaching on the words, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." A collection taken up went far to meet cost of

rewards for proficiency in the Shorter Catechism on which an Examination was held next evening, referred to elsewhere.

In 1884 we had no evening meeting, but on 25th May the Rev. Mr. Hamilton of Winterbourne preached from Genesis 5, 24, "Enoch walked with God." On this occasion also Memorial Cards were given both to Teachers and Scholars.

In 1885 the Rev. M. Fowlie of Erin preached on 17th May from the 2nd Epistle of John v 4, "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth," and next evening we had another examination on the Shorter Catechism.

In 1886 the only commemoration of the Anniversary was by means of Mr. Mullan's sermon on 23rd May from Jacob's words to his brother contained in Genesis 33, 14, "Let my Lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant,—I will lead on softly."

In 1887 the Rev. Mr. Crozier of Grand Valley preached in the forenoon of 22nd May from Luke 18, 16-17, "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not," and Commemorative Cards were given.

In 1888, on the 20th May Mr. Mullan preached in the forenoon from Heb. 13, 6 "The Lord is my helper," and in the evening, the Rev. H. R. Rae, then in Elora, preached from Matt 18, 2, "Jesus took a little child and set him in the midst."

This year (1889) the fortieth anniversary occurring on the 20th May, Mr. McQuarrie at present supplying Metz and Dracon stations exchanged with Mr. Mullan and preached Anniversary Sermons both forenoon and evening of the 19th. The forenoon's discourse on 'Trusting God and doing right'—had for its basis the reply of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to King Nebuchadnezzar recorded in Daniel III, 16, 17, 18, "We are not careful to answer thee in this matter—if it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace and he will deliver us out of thine hand. O King; but if not, be it known unto thee O King, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou has set up"—The evening discourse specially addressed to parents was from John III, 16, "God so loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life." In the afternoon Anniversary Cards were given to the scholars.

We have not always had *Christmas* Entertainments, but on Christmas Eve 1880 we had one. A Christmas Tree bore gifts for the scholars and others connected with the school. There was also a Concert Exercise on

"Watchfulness" in which six boys and six girls took part. The Choir assisted and an Address was given by the Rev. Mr. Smellie.

In 1881 in place of a Christmas Eve gathering, there was one on the morning of Christmas Day; a number of the scholars and some of the Teachers meeting in the Church. Hymns were sung, and an address given by the Rev. Mr. Byers. A quarto Bible was also presented to Mr. Mullan by the Bible Class along with an address to which he replied; and Cards were given to the scholars.

In 1882 the Scholars merely received Cards on the 24th of December, circumstances preventing more.

In 1883 there was again a Christmas Eve entertainment:—singing and recitations by the scholars, music by the Choir and an address by the Rev. Mr. Swann.

In 1884 a Christmas Eve Entertainment was again held. On this occasion however, there was a Christmas Tree loaded with a variety of gifts from the scholars and Teachers for Indian children in the North West; the proceedings were enlivened by recitations and singing, and the articles which were duly forwarded, proved very acceptable.

In 1885 there was a meeting on Christmas morning in the church principally of the smaller children and Teachers. Short religious services were held, Hymns sung, and Cards distributed.

In 1886 there was a precisely similar gathering on Christmas morning.

In 1887 on Christmas Day Special Cards were given for good attendance, and rewards to those who had taken part in a written Examination on the Shorter Catechism the day before.

In 1888 there was a Christmas Tree on the evening of the 27th December, on which gifts had been placed for the Scholars and Teachers. Addresses were given by Messrs. Strachan and Bennet, the former supplying the Metz Congregation.

Besides Anniversary Collections and Christmas Entertainments a *Pic Nic* was kept up each season, for a good many years. After Mr. Cadenhead left Fergus there was not the same facility there had been for two or three years before without going some little distance off. In that year however (1881) an open air party was held in the Manse grounds which, notwithstanding the great heat, was largely attended. It was on the 30th of August. A photograph taken from Mr. Craig's corner was not very successful as a work of art, owing to the haziness of the atmosphere—still individuals could be recognised. For the last three years there has been an excursion to Elora, 22nd July 1886, 26th July 1887 and 12th August 1888.

Many of the scholars with several teachers, male and female, have been taken there and enjoyed themselves without any known drawback, and quite free from accident. For the last three years also a *Flower Service* has been held in the Church in the month of September: the flowers being brought by the scholars tastefully arranged in bouquets, and subsequently forwarded to Guelph, Toronto and Hamilton for the invalids in the Hospitals there. The exercises on these occasions have been reading of the Scriptures, prayer and singing with an address: that by Mr. Mullan on 12th September, 1886, being on Ezekiel 34:29 "A plant of Renown," and on 11th September, 1887, on Rhoda's story as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The address at the last Flower Service on the 9th September, 1888, was by the Rev. Mr. Rae of Acton and was taken from the 25th Psalm.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

It has been our practice when aware of the fact, to note from time to time the death, not only of Teachers or Scholars then with us, but of any who had ever been so. During a period of ten years we could not expect exemption from the hand of death, in respect of Teacher and Scholar. Various instances there may have been which never came to our knowledge. Such as have been noted shall now be given.

Miss Elizabeth Watt died on the 9th of January 1881. She was one of four teachers we had out of one family. She had attended steadily as a scholar and subsequently became a teacher. Altho' she was naturally delicate in constitution she readily gave her assistance in the good work while she could.

Mr. Robert Shaw who had also been with us as a scholar, died a few months later, 18th June 1881. Till his last illness he had been with us as a teacher.

The three other Teachers to be mentioned I had been so long associated with, that I may be excused if I speak of them rather more fully.

Mr. A. S. Cadenhead (father of one of our female teachers) will long be deservedly remembered by many in the school. His death occurred at his home in Muskoka on the 22nd of May, 1883. He had gone there to reside two years before. For more than 25 years (allowing for intervals) he was a most faithful, conscientious Teacher in this school:—studying the lesson carefully and thoroughly, every week, and ready in his class, to "bring out of his treasures things new and old." He took a personal interest in his scholars, and not only while in Fergus, but during his residence at Ancaster, and latterly in connection with the small Sabbath school

at Berriedale in Muskoka, his labors were highly appreciated. He was in the Eldership in this Church from the year 1853.

Mr. Gilbert H. Todd, one of our early Teachers, died at Shelburne 3rd May, 1885. Altho' impulsive and occasionally lacking judgment, he was earnest and honest. His connection with the school was intermittent but lasted altogether about eight years; and we do not doubt that his influence there was good. He was for a short time in the Eldership; conducted the congregational singing in our early days, and also that of the Sabbath School: being enthusiastic in that line.

Mr. Archibald McIntyre another of our old Sabbath School Teachers, and who also conducted the congregational singing for a considerable time died on 10th of April, 1886. His connection with the school was not a long one; indeed he only took up the work in order to supply Mr. Cadenhead's place on two occasions, which together extended to about three years. His ability to lead the singing of the school was of advantage to us, altho' we also had Mr. Todd and Mr. Moffat then. His reliability of character and punctuality in discharge of duty were well known in connection with positions of Trust in the congregation. He was for a short time in the Eldership and his strikingly sudden death cannot yet be forgotten.

Of *Scholars* at the time or formerly, whose deaths took place during the ten years under review the first we have noted is that of *Florence Clyne* a little girl of the Infant Class on 14th Feb'y 1880. She had been in her place in the School during the whole of the previous month.

In 1883 three former scholars were removed by death: *John M. Macdonnell* a lawyer in Winnipeg—youngest son of our former Pastor; *Sydney Wood* who had just entered on the practice of the same profession in Arthur village (a brother of our Elder and Sabbath School Teacher) and *William Clyne* a brother of the little girl already mentioned. His remains were brought for interment to Fergus from Stirling in the County of Hastings, where he had commenced to teach the Public School.

In 1885 *Miss Catharine Watt*, who had been a very short time a scholar here 25 years before died at St. Helena, California. She was sister of those already referred to, and had been long an invalid. In the same year *Albert Morton* who had been a member of the Bible Class in 1883 died; and in 1886 *Peter Mason* then teaching the Public School near Bosworth and who was for a short time one of our scholars, was drowned while bathing near his school.

In 1888 our record of deaths of scholars at the time or who had been so formerly, is larger than it had been in any previous year.

Ausley Steele an Infant Class Scholar died on the 11th of Feb'y. He had been in his place in the school the Sabbath before.

James Wilson a scholar in one of the Intermediate classes 12 years of age, died on the 31st of July; and in the month of May a former scholar *Mrs. Lever* formerly *Miss Elizabeth Tunnah* died in Toronto. That season also, *James Napier*, a member of the Bible Class who had gone to Scotland in hopes of benefit to his health, did not live to return. He died on the 22nd September. In his case as in that of *Miss Isabella Munro* an occasional scholar who died about the same time,—there was the consolatory belief, that they had both been taken to be with Jesus in whom they had at the same time, professed their faith uniting with this church in the month of April. Again, on the 30th of September a scholar of the year 1880, died very suddenly—*Miss Jessie Barnet*. She had intimated her desire to unite with the Church at the Communion then close at hand; but ere the day arrived, her spirit had taken its flight. Then on the 31st March of the present year (1889) the remains of an occasional scholar *Miss M. Douglas* were laid to rest in the Belsyde Cemetery. So repeatedly and strikingly has the admonition very recently been addressed to each and all connected with our school "Be ye also ready."

ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

At our Thirtieth Anniversary the average attendance of Scholars for 1878 was stated to have been 118—year by year since, it has stood at 118, 114, 119, 121, 118, 109, 94 and 121:—while the average for the part of 1889 already past has risen to 137. We can scarcely expect however, that it will keep up to that for the whole of the year.

The Contributions for almost eight of the last ten years continued to be taken up in the mite chests which had been so long in use; but in 1887 envelopes were substituted which permitted of the total amount each Sabbath being intimate to the school at once. Each year's contribution since the beginning of 1879 is shewn by the following amounts, (cents being left out of account for convenience): \$79, \$82, \$91, \$93, \$91, \$86, \$72, \$60, \$83 and \$100. For the past four and a half months of 1889 the total amount contributed has been \$40, and it would be well if a corresponding ratio were maintained for the rest of the year, as, with present arrangements, the school is not aided as hitherto in the expenses of any kind.

During the first seven years after our 1879 Anniversary, in addition to the amount required for the support of our Poona orphan we had to meet only One Half of what was needed for the support of our pupil at Pointe

Aux Trembles and only a *part* of the current expenses of the School so that for these seven years we were able to contribute occasionally more or less to one or other of the following Missionary Objects: The Formosa Mission, Missions in Muskoka, Manitoba and the North West; the New Hebrides Mission, and Schools in Trinidad. We also sent a contribution for the Missionary *Vessel-Day Spring*—and one to a church at Batala, in the Punjaub, India, where Miss Tucker (the well known writer A. L. O. E.) resides, and for which she had made an appeal to the Christian public. We were gratified by receiving an autograph letter from that lady thanking us for the contribution. During the same period we also did something for the Home Mission Scheme, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Fergus Tract Society and for the Sabbath School Provincial Association as well as for that of our own County.

It seems now however, under altered circumstances, as if raising the full amount required for the support of *both* our pupils and what is needed for all other outlay for the school would be quite as much as we shall be able for.

A stricter adherence than in the former Narrative to the several divisions given at the outset, has led to the omission of an incident which should not be overlooked:—the appointment of our respected Superintendent, Rev. J. B. Mullan, as a Delegate to the Centenary Commemoration of the establishment of Sabbath Schools by Robert Raikes, held at London, England in 1880, gratifying both to Mr. Mullan and ourselves, and peculiarly fitting considering the great interest he has always felt and taken in the cause generally:—and particularly in the welfare of our own Sabbath School—his constant aim having been to render the School more efficient, whether as a means of Christian instruction of enforcing religious truth—of developing religious life in the scholars, or of training them in the practice of Christian duty.

There is a peculiar interest in connection with one of the Hymns which at one time was frequently used in our Sabbath School and which was sung at the Anniversary service in the Church recently held.—“Childhood’s years are passing o’er us,”—in the fact that *six* weeks before, its author Mr. William Dickson, Editor for about forty years of the ‘Children’s Record’ of the Free Church of Scotland, breathed his last:—The last verse has significance in connection with our Obituary notices:

“Soon we part—it may be never,
Never here to meet again;
Oh to meet in Heaven for ever!
Oh the crown of life to gain.

Fergus, June, 1889.

A. D. F.

TEACHERS AND OFFICERS

—OF THE—

SABBATH SCHOOL

—OF—

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, FERGUS,

20th MAY, 1889.

REV. J. B. MULLAN, Superintendent and Teacher of Bible Class.

TEACHERS.

MR. JOHN MOFFAT,
 " J. D. WOOD,
 " D. McPHEETER,
 MRS. J. B. MULLAN,
 " STRACHAN,
 MISS A. McPHERSON,
 " E. CADENHEAD,
 " A. SIDES,
 " A. MOFFAT,
 " E. BROOKS,
 " M. ANDERSON,
 " S. PATTISON,
 " B. NAPIER,
 " A. LINDSAY,
 " J. R. MUNRO.

MR. A. D. FORDYCE,

Secretary,

MR. W. WALKER,

Librarian and Assis. Sec'y.

△

18.

Sec'y.